

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION

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February 25, 2003

FROM: **JOHN MICHAELSON**, County Administrative Officer

**PETER HILLS**, Fire Chief/Fire Warden,  
San Bernardino County Consolidated Fire District

SUBJECT: **CONTINUATION OF PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR  
EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Continue the emergency proclamation originally proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors on January 7, 2003, resulting from the discovery of Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) in poultry located within San Bernardino County described in the Emergency Proclamation, which still exists and continues to be a local emergency.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** On January 7, 2003, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming a local emergency resulting from the discovery of END in poultry within San Bernardino County. The Board is required to review and continue the proclamation on either 14-day or 21-day intervals in accordance with the California Government Code section 8630, if there is a continued existence of the local emergency.

During a period when the Board meets weekly, the proclamation must be reviewed every 14 days in accordance with Government Code section 8630(c)(2). If the Board does not meet weekly (e.g. due to a holiday), the proclamation must be reviewed every 21 days in accordance with Government Code section 8630(c)(1). The Board last took action to continue the emergency on February 11, 2003, and approval of this recommendation would continue the emergency for an additional period in accordance with Government Code section 8630.

Also on January 7, 2003, the Governor declared a State of Emergency in the fight against an outbreak of END among poultry in Southern California. Quarantines are currently in place within San Bernardino, San Diego, Los Angeles, Riverside, Ventura, and Orange Counties. The emergency declaration enables state agencies to pool resources and work cooperatively with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in implementing an eradication campaign.

On February 13, 2003, the Chief Information Officer for END reported that the USDA Secretary of Agriculture has declared an Extraordinary Emergency for the discovery of the Exotic Newcastle Disease. With this action, the Office of Management and Budget has made an initial apportionment of \$40 million to support the joint taskforce activities for the affected states of California, Nevada, and Arizona.

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To date, the END surveillance and depopulation teams have focused efforts in the communities of Bloomington, Chino, Colton, Fontana, Helendale, Hesperia, Highland, Montclair, Muscoy, Ontario, Rialto, San Bernardino, and Twentynine Palms. Team staff are continuing to make contact with bird owners and access possible flock infections. The teams have identified a total of seven hundred seventy-nine (779) affected END case sites within the County of San Bernardino and they are continuing to gather data via questionnaires to determine if further action by the END Task Force is indicated.

On February 12, 2003, a briefing was held at the County Operational Area Emergency Operations Center to inform representatives from cities, towns, and key agencies of the status of the END efforts.

Staff will provide an updated review and the proclamation will be recommended for renewal periodically in accordance with the Government Code until such time that the eradication campaign for END is completed, and the existence of the local emergency has ended.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Deputy Dennis Tilton) on February 13, 2003; the County Administrative Office, (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst) on February 13, 2003; County Fire Department (Peter Hills, Fire Chief/Fire Warden) on February 14, 2003; and the Public Health Department (Thomas J. Prendergast, Director) on February 13, 2003.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** No known financial impact.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS:** All

**PRESENTERS:** Thomas J. Prendergast, (909) 387-6219  
Denise Benson (909) 356-3998